GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1933
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2000
REPORT ON REFUGEES
DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI;SHRINIWAS DADASAHEB PATIL

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the report on refugees of Jammu and Kashmir and Tibetans released by the United States Commission;

(b) if so, the number of refugees have taken shelter in various parts of the country;

(c) the number of refugees of various countries reside in India, country-wise;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the action taken to review their cases by the Government ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI I.D. SWAMI)
(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referredto in r/o parts (a) to(e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1933 for reply on 07.03.2000
(a) The United States Committee for Refugees, a non-governmental organisation, recently published the World Refugee Survey, 1999 report wherein it is, inter-alia, stated that India hosted more than 292,000 refugees in 1998, including 110,000 from Tibet. The Report also mentions that 350,000 Kashmiris had been internally displaced due to the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.
(b) to (e):As per the information furnished by Bureau of Immigration,as collected from State Governments, the details regarding foreign nationals staying in India as `refugees` as on 31.1.1998 is as under :-

Country	Registered foreign refugees
Stateless (Tibet)	82149
Sri Lanka	63765
Bangladesh	26163
Afghanistan	12255
Others	554
Total	184886

The Sri Lankan and Tibetan refugees get relief/assistance from the Government of India during their stay in India.All other foreigners of nationalities mentioned above have generally come on valid passports and visas and have been getting extension of stay. The stay is governed under the provisions of different Acts such as Foreigners Act 1946, Passport (Entry into India) Act 1920, Registration of Foreigners Act 1939 and rules and orders framed thereunder.